

1       WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

*Sub a3* > 1. A method for providing voice titles for video programs recorded on a video tape comprising the steps of:

5                   recording video programs on the tape;

generating audio signals of titles for the recorded programs;

10                  recording the audio signals as voice titles;

displaying on a screen a directory of the video programs recorded on the tape;

15                  selecting one of the video programs from the directory; and

                        reproducing the audio signal corresponding to the selected video program to apprise a user of the voice title of the selected video program.

20                  2. The method of claim 1, in which the audio signal is generated while the video program is being recorded.

25                  3. The method of claim 2, in which the audio signal is recorded while the video program is being recorded.

                        4. The method of claim 3, in which the tape has an audio track and the audio signal is recorded in the audio track.

30                  5. The method of claim 3, in which the recorded video program has a vertical blanking interval and the audio signal is recorded in the vertical blanking interval.

                        6. The method of claim 3, additionally comprising the step of marking the end of the recorded audio signal on the tape.

*Sub a4* > 7. The method of claim 6, additionally comprising the steps

*Sub a4*  
cont  
of:

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transporting the tape after the audio signal has been recorded; and

transferring the audio signal to a random access memory (RAM) for later use to select programs for playback.

8. The method of claim 7, in which the transferring step comprises digitizing the audio signal and recording the digitized audio signal in the RAM.

9. The method of claim 8, in which the transferring step additionally comprises compressing the audio signal before recording it in the RAM.

10. The method of claim 9, additionally comprising the step of recording in the RAM with the audio signal other data to assist in the playback of the recorded program.

11. The method of claim 10, in which the other data includes the tape location of the start of the recorded program.

12. The method of claim 11, in which the other data includes the length of the recorded program.

13. The method of claim 12, in which the other data includes voice title designations.

14. The method of claim 13, in which the voice title designations include the day and time of recording.

15. The method of claim 14, in which the voice title designations include the length of the program.

16. The method of claim 15, in which the step of recording the audio signals as voice titles comprises storing the audio

1 signals on the video tape while the video program is being recorded.

Sub A6

5 17. The method of claim 16, additionally comprising the step of positioning the tape at the beginning of a video program responsive to the other data.

10 18. The method of claim 17, additionally comprising the step of reading and playing the video program and the step of reading and storing the audio signals for the played video program and the other data in RAM.

Sub A7

15 19. The method of claim 1, additionally comprising the step of playing the selected video program.

20 20. The method of claim 1 in which the generating step comprises speaking the titles into a microphone.

25 21. The method of claim 1, in which the generating step comprises speaking the titles into a microphone contemporaneously with the step of recording the video program.

25 22. The method of claim 1, in which the displaying step displays voice title designations for the recorded video programs for which voice titles are recorded.

30 23. The method of claim 22, additionally comprising the step of recording video programs without recording voice titles, the displaying step also displaying the titles of the video programs recorded without voice titles along with the voice title designations.

35 24. A method of claim 1, additionally comprising the step of converting the voice titles to textual titles.

*Sub as  
cond* 25. A method of claim 24, in which the displaying step also displays the textual titles for the recorded video programs.

5 26. The method of claim 24, in which the converting step also includes voice titles being converted to alphanumeric textual signals.

10 27. The method of claim 26, additionally comprising the step of storing the alphanumeric textual signals in RAM.

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